

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 and 11-31 are pending in this application. The Office has objected to the underlining of section headings in the specification. Regarding the claims, the Office has rejected claims 1-3, 6-8, 11, and 14-31 under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Nazem *et al* (U.S. Patent No. 5,983,227). The Office has also rejected claims 4 and 5 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nazem in view of Sinden (U.S. Patent No. 6,580,826). The Office has also rejected claims 9, 12, and 13 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nazem in view of Garth *et al* (U.S. Patent No. 6,678,701). This Office action is non-final and is responsive to Applicant's communication filed on September 9, 2004.

Amendments to the Claims

The amendments to the claims correct grammatical errors introduced by previous amendments.

Objection to Specification

Applicant is submitting amendments to the specification to remove the underlining of section headings, as required by the Office.

Nazem 102(b) Rejection of Claims 1, 11, and 19

Applicant is at a loss to understand how the Office could possibly have found all the elements of Applicant's claimed invention within the stated prior art. Referring to the Nazem reference, the Office states on page 4 of the action that "[a] 'database system' is depicted as 'shared memory 212'" Nazem's *shared memory*, however, is not a database system at all. Nazem states that "shared memory 212 is organized as a set of memory mapped files." (Col. 4, lines 3-4.) Nazem further describes the *shared memory* as a memory cache of files. Simply put, a memory cache of files is not a database or a database system, as one of ordinary skill in the art would understand those terms.

Nazem's *shared memory* lacks the features and function commonly associated with a database. Basic database elements, such as rows and columns, are completely missing. Additionally, there is no showing or suggestion by Nazem that the *shared*

memory is a database. A person of ordinary skill in the art would clearly understand that Nazem's *shared memory* is absent the features and functions of a *database system* and would not view the two as equivalents. The Office's assertion that Applicant's database system is depicted as Nazem's *shared memory* is therefore improper.

In view of this, Nazem is lacking at least the elements of receiving data to be stored in a database system and receiving information associated with at least one characteristic of the data. Nazem therefore fails to show or suggest all elements of Applicant's claimed invention, and all claims are allowable over this reference.

102(b) Rejection of Claims Depending from 1, 11, and 19

Claims also rejected under 102(b) and depending from claims 1, 11, and 19 are allowable for at least the same reasons presented above.

103(a) Rejection of Claims 4 and 5 Over Nazem in view of Sinden

As stated by the Office, Sinden teaches a method for encoding handwritten symbols. The term database does not even appear in Sinden. Sinden therefore does not overcome the deficiencies of Nazem described above, and the claims are allowable over the combination of these references.

103(a) Rejection of Claims 9, 12, and 13 Over Nazem in view of Garth

Garth teaches a technique that uses periodic checkpointing of data during the loading of large amounts of data into a database. The technique further teaches that, should the loading of data fail at some point, the data loading process can be restarted from the last checkpoint, thus reducing the time needed to load data should an error occur. While Garth does teach the use of databases, it does not overcome the deficiencies of Nazem as described above. These claims are therefore allowable over the prior art of record.

CONCLUSION

Applicant's claims are allowable over the prior art made of record. Applicant asks the Office to reconsider this application and allow all claims. Please charge any fees that might be due, excluding the issue fee, to deposit account 14-0225.

Respectfully,

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